



MDT - Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

Vol. 52 No. 2

February 2001

Here's the 17th Annual Montana Aviation Conference

Young enough to be spirited, inquisitive, and exciting at seventeen; old enough, with seventeen years of experience, to be interesting, educational and fulfilling; the seventeenth annual Montana Aviation Conference promises something for everyone even remotely interested in aviation and it's past, present and future.

You may experience the intensity of study and learning from lectures in the annual Aviation Mechanics seminars. You'll have the opportunity of visiting "Montanair", Jim Smith's fantastic collection of flying condition warbirds and classic aircraft at Glacier Park International Airport. While you're there, cross the field to see the meticulous restoration of Hank Galpin's "Travelair" nearing completion, along with Hank's beautiful "Jungman" and some of Ray Sanders beautiful antique aircraft.

At the Convention Center you'll experience and enjoy the display areas they have been generously furnished by representatives of the aviation industry with the latest in communications and "don't get lost" gadgets. Everything from what's new, to what's better in airplane furnishings, power, and maintenance. Then attend concurrent sessions in the meeting rooms on "how to fly" "how not to fly" and perhaps, even "when to, and not to fly". All interesting; all vital.

Luncheons featuring speakers of interest and excitement like Joe Kittinger, whose adventures include bailing out at 103,000 feet for a supersonic free fall experience that made him wonder why the

heck he did it. A visit from our new Governor of Montana, Judy Martz, who will have some words of wisdom for all of us and perhaps listen to some from us as well.

A great Banquet will feature our speaker Bill Lishman, Aviation's very own "Birdman", who taught geese how to migrate in the air and wrote a successful book about it, knowing full well that geese can't read.

What better can you name the "Spouse Program" except to call this one "**special**", with a trip through the Conrad Mansion, the ancient but new "Central Museum", the Hockaday Museum of Art; and stops at Kalispell's old Opera House and Western Outdoors Tack Shop, accompanied by a fantastic soft drink or dessert next door at Norm's News.

A hangar dance featuring the music of the Don Lawrence Swing Orchestra with sixteen pieces of blended harmony will cap off the conference with music that's soft enough that you can talk, and rhythmic enough that you won't want to. (*Who doesn't know the music of Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Les Brown, and others? And if you don't he'll lead the band in some other notes that jump.*)

All this with prizes, annual awards, and a gift and prize drawing program that's been streamlined so you'll have more time for whatever you'll need more time for. Hope to see you there.

**Norm Kurtz, Co-Chair,
Kalispell Host Committee**

Governor Martz to Kick-Off Aviation Conference

Judy Martz, Montana's first female Governor, will speak at the Thursday Kick-off luncheon. Prior to being elected Governor, she was elected as the state's first female Lieutenant Governor when she ran with Governor Marc Racicot. Governor Martz was born in Big Timber, Montana, to ranching parents. She graduated from Butte High School in 1961, and attended Eastern Montana College. She was a member of the 1963 U.S. World Speed Skating Team, and a member of the U.S. Olympic Speed Skating Team at the 1964 Winter Games. She was the catalyst for the creation of the U.S. High Altitude Speed Skating Center, located in Butte, and served as the Center's executive director from 1985 to 1989.

Governor Martz worked as a field representative for U.S. Senator Conrad Burns from 1989 to 1995. She also served as President of the Butte Chamber of Commerce in the early 1990's. For more than 30 years, she and her husband, Harry Martz, have owned and operated a commercial solid-waste business in Butte. During these many years as a small business owner, she became actively involved in local and statewide economic development issues.

We look forward to having Governor Martz at this very important Aviation Event. Lodging information and a registration form are included on page 5.

Administrators Column

FAA DECIDES TO CONTINUE USING U.S. FLIGHT PLAN FORM -

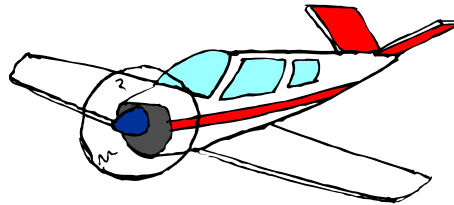
The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has notified the Aircraft Owners And Pilots Association (AOPA) that they will allow the current VFR/IFR flight plan form to continue being utilized. The FAA had previously planned to require U.S. pilots to utilize the ICAO international flight plan form. AOPA Vice President Dennis Roberts stated that, "The international form offers no benefits to U.S. pilots and the additional complexity might discourage some pilots from filing VFR flight plans. Also, adopting the ICAO form would cost a bundle in pilot notification and re-education." Further, Roberts stated "On any given day, the U.S. has more aircraft movements than the rest of the world combined. It has never made sense to force U.S. pilots to use the more complex international form that asks for information that has no bearing on our domestic flight operations." In a letter to AOPA president Phil Boyer, the FAA stated "we are pursuing the development of an automation approach [that] will permit pilots filing flight plans whose routes of flight will remain with domestic airspace under either visual flight rules (VFR) or instrument flight rules (IFR) to continue to utilize the current FAA flight plan format." ➔

AOPA URGES PRESIDENT BUSH NOT TO CUT FAA BUDGET -

The Aircraft Owners And Pilots Association (AOPA) president, Phil Boyer, has written a letter to President Bush urging him not to follow the recommendation of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to cut the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) budget. Boyer stated "Such an action would erode flight safety and delay much needed upgrades in our national aviation system. We can't imagine a more shortsighted decision." It was learned that OMB is proposing cuts of over \$300 million from the \$6.1 billion directed by Congress when it "unlocked" the aviation trust fund and set specific funding levels to improve/modernize the aviation infrastructure in the passage of AIR-21 a year ago. Boyer reminded the President that, "In your remarks to AOPA members last October, you committed to placing the highest priority

on finding solutions to the air traffic control problems the previous administration had not been able to solve." Further that "The bipartisan AIR-21 agreement was an important milestone in recognizing and acting upon the growing delays and congestion in our air traffic control system. Ignoring the AIR-21 agreement would slow deployment of new air traffic control equipment, would delay vital airport infrastructure upgrades and would place serious strains on FAA safety and training functions." Boyer concluded by respectfully requesting President Bush to reconsider OMB'S decision to under-fund the FAA. ➔

CONDOLENCES - It was sad to learn that Pat Settle recently passed away quite unexpectedly. Pat and her husband Bob founded Bison Aviation in Helena, which they sold to Vetter Aviation. They then relocated in Miles City, where they own and operate Settle Aviation. On behalf of the Aeronautics Board and Division, as well as the entire Montana aviation community I wish to pass on our condolences to Bob and the Settle family. ➔



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Montana and the Sky
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David A. Galt, Director

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AERONAUTICS MECHANICS SEMINAR/IA RENEWAL

The Montana Aeronautics Division is pleased to announce the 2001 Mechanics Seminar/IA renewal will once again be held in conjunction with this year's Montana Aviation conference in Kalispell MT.

The dates for the conference are March 1 – 3, 2001. The Mechanics Seminar will be held on Friday, March 2 and continue through Saturday, March 3.

We will once again be offering five hours of training on Friday and a full eight hours of training on Saturday. This worked out well in past years for those mechanics only wanting to attend on Saturday, but still needing the training to update their IA for renewal.

Mechanics attending this year's seminar will be required to register for the Aviation Conference. The registration fee will be \$50.00. This allows you to attend all concurrent sessions, morning and afternoon coffee breaks with snacks, Friday night dinner dance and the Saturday Luncheon.

Or if only attending the 8-hour Saturday session, a \$15.00 day pass may be obtained.

TENTATIVE SPEAKERS:

Engine Components Northwest – Roger Fuchs
Aerospace Products Inc. – Loren Lemen
Garrett Aviation – Matt Williams
Teledyne Continental Motors – Joel Wattum
Champion Aviation Products – Frank Gurko
Facet Filters – Larry Fleming
Rocky Mountain Avionics - Mitch Steinberg
Parker Hannifin – Shawn Isham
Pacific Corrosion Control – Mike Dahlager
FAA – Gary Nelson
FAA – Aircraft Certification (MIDO)
Helena FSDO - Steve Jones & Staff



Make plans now to attend, to discuss and learn the latest in aircraft maintenance.

How Many Of Us Are There?

AOPA's 2000 Aviation Fact Card says that there are 635,472 U.S. pilots. These include 258,749 private pilots, 124,261 commercial pilots, and 137,642 airline transport pilots. Student pilots number 97,359, while there are 79,694 flight instructors. Interestingly, there are only 343 recreational pilots. Other aviation statistics are available on AOPA Online at <http://www.aopa.org/whasnew/stats/fctcrd00.html>.



Calendar

January 1-March 31 – Annual Nationwide CAP Membership Drive. Contact Major Steven Heffel at (406) 252-9850 or access CAP website at <http://www.capnhq.gov> for info about Montana Wing CAP.

February 2 & 3 - Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic, Helena.

February 9-11 – Winter Survival Clinic, Helena.

February 25 - Aviation Open House, Rocky Mountain College – Contact RMC Admissions Office (800) 877-6249 or (406) 657-1026 to make a reservation and obtain more information.

March 1-3 – Montana Aviation Conference, Kalispell.

March 22-24 – International Women in Aviation Conference, Reno, NV.

April 8-14 – Sun 'n Fun EAA Fly-In, Lakeland, FL.

April 26-28 – Aircraft Electronics Association 44th Annual Convention & Trade Show, Dallas, TX – for further information call AEA at (816) 373-6565 or check out convention information online at www.aea.net.

June 2 & 3 - Annual work session for Spotted Bear & Meadow Creek Airstrips. Barbeque held at Spotted Bear Airstrip.

June 9 - Work Session Wurtz Airstrip (North Fork Flathead Drainage).

June 10 - Work Session Sonderson Airstrip.

July 7 - North Central Hangar Fly-In Breakfast & Big Kids Toy Show - Big Sandy Airport.

July 20-22 - Schafer Meadows Work Session.

July 24-30 – 2001 EAA AirVenture, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

August 2-5 – MAAA Fly-In, Three Forks.

**Happy
Valentines
DAY!**

AMAA Conference a Success

The annual Association of Montana Aerial Applicators (AMAA) conference was held at the Heritage Inn in Great Falls January 22-23, 2001. In addition to an annual business meeting, the conference offered the aerial applicators sessions on the latest information on state and federal regulations related to application of chemicals. The Montana Department of Agriculture put on a session explaining state laws and regulations and upcoming legislation. The FAA put on a flight safety session. Mike Ferguson of the Aeronautics Division explained three bills now being considered in the legislature which affect aviation. The classroom sessions qualified the aerial applicators for the required annual re-certification. Also included at the Conference was a trade show where vendors exhibited their wares, chemical and application information, insurance, etc. The conference concluded with a banquet where the new officers were announced. Dan French is the new President, Dana Ness is the new Vice President, and Sid Brandon is the new Secretary/Treasurer. New directors are past president Ron Rowland, Mark Jeffrey, and Dennis Pluhar. Linda Blain and Dana Ness were re-elected to the board of directors. We would like to congratulate the AMAA, and especially Shelly Peterson and Linda Blain, for putting on a very educational and well run conference.



Darrold Hutchinson presents Linda Blain with the AMAA Eagle Award in recognition of her outstanding contributions to AMAA.



Kim & Ron Rowland; Ron is outgoing President of AMAA and will now serve as a Director.



Lynn Carlson, President of the National Aerial Applicators Association, was the keynote speaker at the banquet.



Dan French, newly elected AMAA President, makes his acceptance speech.

MONTANA AVIATION CONFERENCE

March 1-3, 2001

Mail to:
Montana Aeronautics Division
P.O. Box 5178
Helena, MT 59604-5178

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

NAMES OF PARTICIPANT(S) (for name tags) _____

ADDRESS, CITY, STATE ZIP & PHONE _____

Your Organization Affiliation:
(choose one only for nametag)
MPA _____ MATA _____ MFF _____
MAMA _____ 99S _____ MAAA _____
EAA _____ AMAA _____ CAP _____
MSPA _____ OTHER _____

PLEASE MAKE THE FOLLOWING RESERVATIONS
NOTE: Meal tickets must be purchased 48 hours in advance.

TAKEOFF TO LANDING PACKAGE (INCLUDES REGS. & ALL MEALS)

_____ @ \$115/PERSON \$ _____
_____ @ \$200/PERSON/SPOUSE \$ _____

-OR- REG. FEE _____ @ \$50/PERSON \$ _____
_____ @ \$65/FAMILY \$ _____

Thursday Luncheon _____ @ \$10 \$ _____
Thursday Dinner _____ @ \$25 \$ _____
Friday Luncheon _____ @ \$10 \$ _____
Friday Dinner/Dance _____ @ FREE \$ -0-
Saturday Luncheon _____ @ FREE \$ -0-
Saturday Banquet _____ @ \$25 \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
MONTANA AERONAUTICS DIVISION

TOTAL: \$ _____

State Aviation Conference Lodging – Kalispell

Best Western Outlaw Inn – 1701 Hwy 93 S, 800-325-4000 - \$71.81 two beds

Aero Inn – 1830 Hwy 93 South, 800-843-6114, www.aeroinn.com - \$32.00 one person/one bed - \$40.00 two people/two beds

Days Inn, 1550 Hwy 93 N, 406-756-3222, www.thedays.inn.com - \$35.00 one person/one bed, \$40.00 two people/two beds

Diamond Lil's Motel, 1680 Hwy 93 South, 800-843-7301, www.placetostay.com - \$34.00 one person/one bed, \$38.00 two people/two beds

Motel 6 of Kalispell, 1540 Hwy 93 South, 406-752-6355

White Oak Lodge, 4820 Hwy 93 S, 800-857-2388 - \$35.00 one bed, \$40.00 two beds

All properties listed above have special blocks of rooms and rates. You must identify yourself as being with the State Aviation Conference to qualify for specials. Many properties have a two-week cutoff (2/17/01) for special rates. Prices may or may not include 4% bed tax. For additional lodging information please call Montana Aeronautics (406) 444-2506.

New AOPA Online Service

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association has introduced an online “status request form” to help AOPA members waiting for FAA action on deferred medical certificates. The form helps minimize delays and decreases the chance of a lost file.

“Currently, the FAA is several months behind in processing special issuance medical applications,” said Gary Crump, AOPA director of medical certification. “This new member service should help AOPA members get their special issuance medical certificates with as little delay and bureaucratic hassle as possible.”

The new form, on a secure server in the members-only section of AOPA Online at www.aopa.org, allows AOPA members to submit basic medical information in confidence to the AOPA Medical Certification staff, which then follows up with the FAA.

FAA policy requires that an Aviation Medical Examiner (AME) automatically deny a medical certificate to pilots with certain medical conditions, deferring the medical application to the FAA’s Aeromedical Division in Oklahoma City for further investigation. With additional tests, documentation and approval by FAA officials, so-called “special issuances” good for 12 months can authorize pilots to fly despite common problems such as a heart murmur or arrhythmia, or previous angioplasty or bypass surgery.

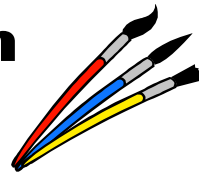
But lack of funding for an FAA modernization program to handle medical paperwork, coupled with inherent aeromedical system problems, has caused delays of up to four months to occur between the time an AME submits the special issuance medical application paperwork and the granting or denial of the certificate. Although special issuance medical applications may be submitted up to three months in advance, pilots are often needlessly grounded.

“When you add it all up, it’s not uncommon for a pilot to spend six months out of every 12 engaged in the FAA renewal process, and grounded up to three months a year awaiting action from Oklahoma City,” said Crump. “And it’s costly, too. Some pilots spend \$1,000 to \$3,000 or more each year to obtain such special issuance medicals.”

The new AOPA Online Medical Status form will help AOPA medical certification staff keep pending special issuance medical applications on track and not ‘misplaced’ before a decision is reached.

The direct URL for the new form in the members-only section of the AOPA Web site is https://www.aopa.org/members/medical/status_request.cfm.

EAA Sport Aviation Art Competition



The first EAA Sport Aviation Art Competition was held in 1977 at the EAA Air Museum in Hales Corners, Wisconsin. This Competition originated at the suggestion of EAA member Jim LaMalfa, and has run continuously since. Works executed in two-dimensional media with an aviation theme are eligible and should represent the following EAA member interests: Homebuilders, Aerobatic, Warbirds, Vintage Aircraft, Ultralights and Flight Instruction. Photographs may not be entered. For an application and entry procedures call Montana Aeronautics Division (406) 444-2506, or if you have any questions regarding the Art Competition please call (920) 426-4877 or you may email your questions to Lcurtis@eaa.org.

Challenge Aviation with Education

For Jr. High and High School Students

March 1, 2001

Kalispell, MT

Elk’s Lodge, 1820 Hwy. 93 S

1:00 PM to 1:50 PM - *Aviation Career Program for High School Students and Teachers*

Keynote Speaker Captain Karen M. Kahn has been actively involved in aviation for the past 29 years. Holding all ratings through ATP, she was the first woman to be type rated in a Lockheed JetStar. Karen is presently a captain on a MD-80 for a major carrier. Karen is a frequent speaker at pilot’s seminars and career workshops. She writes for *Flying Careers Magazine* and *International Women Pilots Magazine*. She uses her in-depth knowledge of human resource management, both in and out of the cockpit, to assist pilots in achieving their career goals. *Succeed! Just do it!*

2:00 PM to 3:30 PM - *Aviation Career Panel*

Moderated by Captain Karen M. Kahn, a panel of aviation professionals representing Airlines, Military, Corporations, Education, Aircraft Mechanics, Fixed Based Operators, and others will enlighten us on the ins and outs of a few of the many aviation career options. There will be a question and answer time with Door Prizes!

3:30 PM to 4:30 PM - *Aviation Navigation and Flight Simulation*

Jeanne MacPherson, Montana Aeronautics Division, Len Wheeler, Federal Aviation Administration, and Richard Klein, Educator from Chicago, Illinois.

-or-

3:30 PM to 4:30 PM - *Tour Exhibit Booths* - Outlaw Inn where there are close to 50 booths with Aviation Industry exhibits.

This program is just a part of an exciting aviation weekend with nationally recognized speakers, banquets, seminars and more. For further information contact Jeanne MacPherson at (406) 444-2506 or email jmacpherson@state.mt.us.

GAMA Reports Record Third Quarter Billings for GA

At just over \$2 billion, 2000 proved to have the best third quarter billings in general aviation history according to the General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA). Shipments for the third quarter reached their highest level since 1984 at 684 units.

Year to date, general aviation airframe manufacturers are enjoying record growth with total billings of \$6.3 billion, up 10.4 percent from the same period in 1999. Shipments were up 16.3 percent to 2,000 units during the first nine months of this year.

Looking at the third quarter numbers, GAMA President Ed Bolen stated, "This is yet another great quarter for GA. The enthusiasm that was so evident at the NBAA Convention and AOPA Expo are reflected in these billing and shipment numbers. They're terrific."

Turboprop deliveries through the first nine months were up 36.3 percent to 233 units. Year-to-date jet deliveries totaled 431 units, which is a 15.2 percent gain over the 374 units shipped during the same period of 1999. Piston-engine airplane shipments increased by 13.8 percent to 1,336 units, compared with 1,174 units shipped in the first nine months of last year.

Export shipments through the first nine months of 2000 increased **11.3** percent to **444** units compared to **399** during the same period in 1999. However, export billings were down **20.7** percent to **\$1.44** billion.

YTD AIRPLANE SHIPMENTS BY TYPE

	<u>YTD 00</u>	<u>YTD 99</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>
PISTONS	1,336	1,174	13.8%
TURBOPROPS	233	171	36.3%
JETS	431	374	15.1%
TOTAL	2,000	1,719	16.3%

THIRD QUARTER AIRPLANE SHIPMENTS BY TYPE

	<u>QIII 00</u>	<u>QIII 99</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>
PISTONS	472	411	14.8%
TURBOPROPS	68	58	17.2%
JETS	144	137	5.1%
TOTAL	684	606	12.9%

GAMA is a national trade association headquartered in Washington, DC representing 50 U.S. manufacturers of general aviation aircraft, engines avionics and related equipment. GAMA's members also operate fleets of aircraft, fixed based operations at many airports and pilot training and maintenance technician training facilities across the United States. For additional information on GAMA, visit their web site at www.generalaviation.org.

Instrument Approach Charts

AOPA members can now view and download, free of charge, all current government-published instrument approach charts.

Some 9,400 NACO (formerly NOS) instrument procedure charts, including instrument approach procedures (IAPs), standard terminal arrivals (STARs), departure procedures (DPs, formerly called SIDs), and all U.S. change notices are available at www.aopa.org/members/airports/. The charts are updated according to the aeronautical charting cycle, and are current for instrument flight.

"This year, entering a new millennium, AOPA is using the tools of the twenty-first century to give members more information and flexibility," said AOPA President Phil Boyer. "Approach charts are just one of the enhancements we're adding to the *AOPA's Airport Directory Online*."

The charts are available in the Portable Document Format (PDF) for members to view online and download to their personal computer.

"With the PDF format, pilots can print the charts in any size they want," said Machteld Smith, director of *AOPA's Airport Directory*. "The charts will be easier to read than the standard 'government issue' because pilots can adjust the size to meet their needs and print them on a much better paper."

The charts are linked to *AOPA's Airport Directory Online* listings. Pilots need only "point and click" on the related airport entry to download the instrument charts for the airports they need.

The online charts aren't intended to be a full replacement for an IFR chart subscription, however. "We certainly don't advocate flying on instrument without the approach plates for the entire route of flight," said Boyer, "but AOPA's online charts are a perfect complement for trips slightly outside your region of coverage, student training, and proficiency flights."



New Web Site:

A new web site has been created to bring the many EAA'ers across the great state of Montana together. Check it out at www.hwy2.com/bigskyeeaa!

Rocky Mountain College



Vacancies

The Rocky Mountain College Aviation Program has announced that they are seeking candidates to fill two vacancies on the faculty for the 2001-2002 school year. One position will be a permanent tenure-track assistant/associate professor of aviation, and the second will be a one-year visiting assistant professor of aviation. Anyone wanting further information should contact Dave Kimball at (406) 657-1060 or e-mail kimballd@rocky.edu.

Sparky Imeson Honored



Congratulations to Sparky Imeson for receiving the FAA Safety Counselor of the Year Award. It was presented at the Aviation Safety Advisory Group Banquet in Arizona. Sparky gets to keep the big one for a year!



February, 2001

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March 1-3

Best Western Outlaw Inn • 1701 Hwy 93 South

Mechanics Seminar / IA Renewal MATA Recertification

TRADE SHOW

Luncheons • Awards Dinner • Saturday Banquet
"Hangar" Dinner Dance & Silent Auction (Supporting the NW Montana Youth Aviation Fund)

SPEAKERS

Governor, Judy Martz – Bill Lishman, author of best seller FATHER GOOSE, the award winning video C'mon Geese and the inspiration behind feature film Fly Away Home – Joe Kittinger, retired Air Force pilot, holds the world record parachute jump, first to solo balloon across the Atlantic Ocean, currently Vice President of Flight Operations for Rosie O'Grady Flying Circus

TOURS

Spouse • Conrad Mansion, Central School Historical Museum, Hockaday Museum for Art.

Aircraft • Montanair – Collection of Aircraft including: 1917 Curtiss Jenny, 1944 North American P51D, 1948 Chance-Vought Corsair F4U-5, 1942 Boeing Stearman 175N1 and many more.....

C. G. Aviation – MAAA, EAA, MPA Static Display and other interesting stuff.....

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Montana's Recreational Airstrips • FAA Open Forum • Learn from the Mistakes of Others • Volunteering your Piloting Skills to Help Others • Future of Regional Airlines Service • Flight Physiology/FAA Medical Exams • Pilot Survival-its not a TV Show • Yukon Gold • Nunavut Airtour 2000 • Things you don't want to do in your Airplane • What's Happening with US Customs • Montana Search and Rescue • Alaska Bush Pilot Flying •

Co-Sponsors: Montana Pilots Association • Montana Antique Airplane Association • Montana Airport Managers Association • Montana Aeronautics Division

For more information contact Montana Aeronautics 406-444-2506

montana aviation conference

2001

kalispell